

**MINUTES OF THE
CHILD WELFARE LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT PANEL**
Thursday, May 20, 2004 – 11:00 a.m. – Room 305 State Capitol

Members Present:

Rep. Mike Thompson, House Chair
Sen. Gene Davis
Rep. David Litvak
Rep. Steven R. Mascaró

Staff Present:

Mr. Mark D. Andrews, Policy Analyst
Ms. Catherine J. Dupont, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Wendy L. Bangerter, Legislative Secretary

Members Absent:

Sen. Dan R. Eastman, Senate Chair

Note: A list of others present and a copy of materials can be found at <http://www.image.le.state.ut.us/imaging/history.asp> or by contacting the committee secretary, Wendy Bangerter, at 538-1032.

1. Committee Business

Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. Litvak moved to approve the minutes of October 21, 2003. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Review of 2004 Legislation

The Panel reviewed child welfare issues addressed by legislation introduced during the 2004 Annual General Session (handout distributed by Mr. Andrews).

Rep. Litvak recommended that those bills with major policy changes be noted separately.

Rep. Mascaró suggested the Panel review the Governor's concerns expressed in her veto of H.B. 140 and determine whether they can be addressed.

Rep. Thompson asked Panel members to submit their suggestions for interim study to staff within two weeks.

3. Update on Oversight Developments Since Last Year

Mr. Richard Anderson, Director, DCFS (Division of Child and Family Services), discussed his views of the past session. He indicated that the Division is working on proposals that would address how to respond when a doctor and a parent of a child are in conflict, and noted that these would be worth reviewing with the Panel.

Mr. Alain Balmanno, Attorney General's Office, discussed his views of the past session and Judge Campbell's indication last year that federal court oversight may end in 2006.

Mr. Adam Trupp, DCFS, distributed and discussed a matrix of activities proposed in the Division's program improvement plan developed in response to the federal Child and Family Services Review. He also said that the Division's capacity to make changes internally evaporates when it has to implement as much legislation as was passed during the 2004 General Session.

The Panel scheduled the next meeting for June 17, 2004.

4. Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Litvak moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Davis absent for the vote.

Chair Thompson adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.